A DESCRIPTION Of the PARISH of MELROSE;

In ANSWER to

Mr. *Maitland's* QUERIES, sent to each Parish of the Kingdom.

EDINBURGH:
Printed by T. W. and T. RUDDIMANS,
Sold by *John Paton* Bookseller in the *Parliament-close*, M.DCC.XLIII.

A

DESCRIPTION

of the PARISH of

MELROSE:

MVSEVM
BRITAN
NICVM

A DESCRIPTION OF THE Pariſh of *MELROSE.*

THE Pariſh of *Melroſe*, in the Shire of *Roxburgh* and Presbytery of *Selkirk*, is in Breadth from South to North about eight or nine Miles, in Length from Eaſt to Weſt in ſome Places about four. It is divided by the River *Tweed*. It is bounded by the Pariſh of *Galaſhiels* on the Weſt, on this Side of *Tweed*, and on the other Side of *Tweed* by the Water of *Gala*, which falls into *Tweed* a little below *Weſterlonglee*; on the North-weſt by the Pariſh of *Stow*, on the North by *Lawder*; on the Eaſt by the Water of *Lawder* or *Leeder*, which falls into *Tweed* a little below *Drygrange*; and by the River of *Tweed* on the Eaſt and South-eaſt; and on the South by the Pariſh of *Leſſuden*, or

rather *Lesaidan*, and the Parish of *Bowdean* or rather *Bethendean*.

About a Mile and a half from the Town of *Melrose* to the East, stands *Old Melrose*, or *Mailross*, or rather *Mul-ross*, signifying a bare Promontory (*a*); for *Ross*, in the ancient Language, signifieth a Peninsula, and *mul* bare. It is almost encompassed with *Tweed*, famous for its ancient Monastery, as one among the first Seats of the Kingdom of the religious *Keledei*, or *Culdæi*, or, as *Fordun* explains the Name, *Cultores Dei*, Worshippers of God; though *Toland* says they were so named from the original *Irish* or antient *Scottish* Word *Ceilede*, signifying separated or espoused to God; and *Nicolson* Bishop of *Derry* says, they were so named from the black Habit, for *Culdee*, says he, signifies a black Monk (*b*). But whatever this signifies, they were religious Persons, who admitted of nothing but what is contained in the Scriptures, the Writings of the Prophets, Apostles and Evangelists, and, as *Bede* observes of them, were diligent Observers of the Works of Piety and Charity, which they had learned out of the Prophetick and Apostolick Writings, wherein they maintain'd themselves a long Time against the

(*a*) Irvine's Nom. p. 161.
(*b*) Preface to the Irish Historical Library, p. 30.

the Canons and Ordinances of the *Romiſh* Councils, ſo much preſſed upon them by the Diſciples and Proſelytes of that See.

We have no Account by whom this Monaſtery was founded; it is likely by *Columbus*, or by *Aidan*, who are ſaid to have built ſo many Monaſteries in other Places. It is probable it was founded about the End of the ſixth Century: *Bede* gives us an Account of its Situation on the Bank of the River *Tweed* (*c*), and likewiſe of its Abbots, 1. *Eata*. *Boiſil* ſucceeded him; *Dempſter* ſays he died *anno* 643, and to him St. *Cuthbert*, who afterwards quit the Monaſtery, and went to *Lindisfarne*, now called the *Holy Iſland*; and to him *Ethelwold*. This Place was a famous Nurſery for learned and religious Men, who were filled with Zeal for propagating the Chriſtian Religion, particularly among their Neighbours the Pagan *Saxons*.

Nennius, a *Britiſh* Hiſtorian, who lived, as ſome, in the Year 620, or rather, as the Biſhop of *Carliſle* places him, *anno* 853 (*d*). He ſpeaks of the noble and great Monaſtery of *Melroſe*, *cap* 63. which was ruined likely then after the Deſtruction of the Churches and Monaſteries by the Pagan *Danes*

(*c*) Beda, lib. 4. cap. 27.
(*d*) Eng. Hiſtor. Libr. Folio, p. 33.

Danes (*e*), who burnt the Churches and Houſes wherever they came. 'Tis probable this Monaſtery was repaired and continued till the other was founded by King *David*.

This Convent has been incloſed with a Stone Wall, reaching from the South Corner of the *Tweed* to the Weſt Corner of it, where the Neck of Land is narrow; the Foundations of the Wall are yet ſtill to be ſeen. At the Entrance to the Convent, about the Middle of this Wall, there has been an Houſe built, likely for their Porters, called yet the *Redhouſe*. The Place where the Chapel ſtood is ſtill called the *Chapel-know*, and Places on *Tweed* at this Place ſtill retain their Names from the Monks there, as the *Haly-wheel* and the *Monk-ford*. I do not think there has been any great Building about it, for, as *Bede* acquaints us, their Churches then were all of Oak, and thatched with Reeds. The Situation of the Place is moſt pleaſant and agreeable, being almoſt ſurrounded with *Tweed*, and having a fine Proſpect towards *Gladſwood*.

About a Mile to the Weſt on the *Tweed* ſtands *Newſtead*, a Place noted for an antient Lodge of Maſons, but more remarkable for another Abbacy on the Eaſt-ſide of it, called

(*e*) Dalrymple's Collections, p. 57.

called *Red Abbey-ſteed*. Whether it got this Name from the Colour of the Stones wherewith it was built, or becauſe it was an Houſe belonging to the Templars, they wearing a red Croſs for their diſtinguiſhing Badge, I cannot determine; but it is certain, when the Ground here is plowed or ditched, the Foundations of ſeveral Houſes are diſcovered, a great deal of Lead got, and ſome curious Seals.

At this Place likewiſe there has been a famous Bridge over *Tweed*; the Entrance to it on the South-ſide is very evident, and a great deal of fine Stones are dug out of the Arches of the Bridge when the Water is low.

About half a Mile from *Newſtead*, on the South-ſide of *Tweed*, ſtands the preſent *Melroſe*. There was a great Wood betwixt theſe foreſaid Places, planted with Oaks, beginning at *Ekidean*, or rather *Oakdean*, and is ſtill called the *Prior-wood*; and on the High-road to *Melroſe*, there was a famous Croſs, called the *Prior-wood-croſs*. It is ſurrounded with Mountains, as *Jeruſalem* of old; it is about four Miles diſtant from *Selkirk* to the Weſt, eight from *Jedburgh* to the South, and eight from *Kelſo* to the Eaſt. It is famous for its Monaſtery, the Fabrick of which was very large and ſpacious, as appears from the Ruins of it yet remaining,

maining, and one of the moſt magnificent and ſtately in the Kingdom, and continues ſtill to be the Admiration of Strangers, who for the Height and embelliſhing of its Pillars with all kind of Sculpture, the Beauty of its Stones, and Symmetry of its Parts, do reckon it one of the beſt of the *Gothick* kind they have ſeen.

There was a new Erection of an Abbacy at this Place, and not a reviving of the antient Monaſtery at *Old Melroſe*. It was founded by King *David* anno 1136, according to theſe Monkiſh Verſes:

Anno milleno centeno, ter quoque deno,
Et ſexto Chriſti, Melroſe fundata fuiſti.

It was dedicate to the Virgin *Mary*, as appears by the original Charter of Foundation, bearing the Grant to be, *Deo & ſanctæ Mariæ de Mailroſs & Monachis, ibidem Deo ſervientibus de Rievallis*, &c. and ſo of the *Ciſtertian* Order (*f*). The Chronicle of *Mailroſs* acquaints us, that it was dedicate *anno* 1146, ten Years after its Foundation. The Church is built in the Form of St. *John*'s Croſs; the Chancel, which is a very ſtately building, is ſtill ſtanding; its Roof is very curious, and has much of the Scripture

(*f*) Dalrym. Coll. p. 257.

Scripture History upon it, and its Window a fine Piece of Architecture, wherein has been a great Variety of baken Glass and painted Glass, which sometimes have been dug out of the Ground. Our History bears, that King *Alexander* II. was buried here at the high Altar, with this Inscription on his Tomb:

Ecclesiæ clypeus, pax plebis, dux miserorum,
Rex rectus, rigidus, sapiens, consultus, honestus;
Rex pius, rex fortis, rex optimus, rex opulentus,
Nominis istius ipse secundus erat.
Annis ter denis & quinis rex fuit ipse,
Insula quæ Carneri dicitur hunc rapuit.
Spiritus alta petit, cœlestibus associatus,
Sed Melrossensis *ossa sepulta tenet.*

But there appears no such Tomb or Inscription here: There is indeed a fine Marble Stone in the Form of a Coffin, without any Inscription, which I think has been laid on *Waldevus* the second Abbot, who was canonized; for the Chronicle of *Melrose* acquaints us, that *Ingeram* Bishop of *Glasgow* and four Abbots came to *Melrose*, and opened his Grave twelve Years after his

Death, and found not the leaſt Corruption about his holy Body, upon which they laid a fine new poliſhed Marble Stone, and this was done with great Joy, all crying out, *Verè hic homo Dei eſt.*

Many of the Earls of *Douglas* were likewiſe buried here, as Earl *William* and his heroick Son *James*, who was killed at the Battle of *Otterburn Auguſt* 5, anno 1388, fought betwixt him and Sir *Henry Percy*, ſirnamed *Hotſpur*, afterwards Earl of *Northumberland*. He was interr'd with a military Pomp of the whole Army, and all the Honour that could be deviſed for him beſides, by the Abbot and Monks of that Convent, after the moſt ſolemn Manner of theſe Times (*g*). As alſo the Lord of *Liddiſdale*, called *The Flower of Chevalry*, and many others of great Note, ſuch as the *De Valoniis*, *Vauſſes* of *Dirlton*, *Somervils*, *Balfours* and others; ſome of them are ſaid by the Book of *Melroſe* to be buried in *capitulo eccleſiæ*, i. e. in the Chapter-houſe. This is all the Account I can give, the Obituary of this Monaſtery being deſtroy'd.

Within, on the North-ſide of the Croſs, there are beautiful Pillars, and the Sculpture as freſh as if it had been but newly cut. Here is a Place called the *Wax Cellar*, where they

(*g*) Hume's Hiſt. of Douglaſſes, p. 105.

they kept their Tapers and Candles for burning at the Altars and Shrines of their Saints, eſpecially at the Altar of St. *Mary* and St. *Waldave*. Above this wax Cellar there was lately diſcovered a curious Vault; there was no Entry into it but by lifting up the firſt Step of the Turnpike, which certainly had been contrived for concealing their valuable things, in caſe of an Invaſion by the *Engliſh*, which they frequently felt and were threatned with: It had no Light but at this Entry. This famous Turnpike was only demoliſhed about ſix Years ago. The Abbot had a fine Houſe adjoining to the Church here, with an Entry to the Church by a Stair, the Remains of which are to be ſeen with a Font at the Foot of it. On the Weſt-ſide of the Croſs there is the Statue of *Peter* with a Book open, his Right Hand on it, and two Keys hanging on the Left; and then to the South-ſide of this Statue is that of *Paul* with a Sword. In the Middle of the Croſs ſtood the Steeple, a Piece of notable Architecture; a Quarter of it is yet ſtanding, but the Spire is gone. The Bells here could not but have a fine and melodious Sound from the Hills and Water.

The Roof of the South-ſide of the Croſs is ſtill ſtanding, one of the Key Stones has on it, *I. H. S.* i. e. *Jeſus hominum ſalvator.*

There is a beautiful Turnpike here, which is much admired by Strangers, the Roof of it winding like a Snail Cap.

Above the Door of this there is a Compaſs with this Inſcription:

Sa gayes the Compaſs ev'n about,
So Truth and Laute do but doubt.
Behald to the End. John Murdo.

On the South-ſide of this Door there is another:

John Murdo *ſum tym callit was I,*
And born in Paryſſe *certainly;*
And had in kepying all Maſom Werk,
Of Santandroys *the hye Kyrk,*
Of Glaſgu, Melros *and* Paſlay,
Of Nyddyſdayl *and of* Galway,
Pray to God, and Mari *baith,*
And ſweet St. John *keep this haly Kirk from Skaith.*

There are within the Church a vaſt Number of Fonts curiouſly carved, where they had their Altars dedicate to ſuch and ſuch a Saint, and ſeveral Gentlemen mortified a certain Annuity, called *Altarage Money*, for the Maintenance of a fit and qualified Perſon to ſay ſo many Maſſes at ſuch an Altar, for

their

their own Souls and the Souls of their Anceſtors and Succeſſors. I have obſerved above ſome of theſe Altars a Pulley, on which there was a little Bell, to be rung at the Elevation of the Hoſt, or for hanging Lamps.

In the Place where the Congregation meets for divine Worſhip, there are two Rows of Pillars of excellent Workmanſhip, eſpecially that to the South-eaſt, which, for the Fineneſs of it, looks like *Flanders* Lace. The Roof of this Place of the Church was put on *anno* 1618 by the Maſons of *Newſtead*, a Place famous for ſeveral Centuries for Maſonry, though this Roof bears no Reſemblance to the former.

On the South-ſide of the Church there is a fine Monument, erected for Mr. *David Fletcher*, who had been Miniſter of this Congregation for ſeveral Years, and after King *Charles* II. his Reſtoration was made Biſhop of *Argyle*. This Monument was erected by his Son Mr. *William Fletcher*, an eminent Lawyer.

On the Weſt-ſide of this, within the Church, is the Burial-place of the *Pringles* of *Galaſhiels*, where the Portraiture of Sir *James Pringle* is to be ſeen as big as the Life.

On the Weſt-ſide of this is the Burial-place of the *Pringles* of *Whitebank*, the undoubted

ed Male Repreſentatives of the ancient Family of *Galaſhiels*. It appears by the Graveſtones here, that they have matched with very honourable Families, as with the *Lundins* of that Ilk, with the *Homes* of *Wedderburn*, and one of them with *Sophia Shoner* a *Dane*, Maid of Honour to Queen *Anne* of *Denmark*.

On the North-ſide of the Church within, at the Entry called the Valley-gate, is the Burial-place of the *Kers* of *Zair*, ſince of *Sutherland-hall*, where their Arms are to be ſeen on the Wall, *viz.* A Stag's Head eraſed on a Cheveron, three Stars with this Inſcription below, *Here lies the Race of the Houſe of* Zair.

Having given a lame Deſcription of what is remarkable within the Church, we ſhall take notice of what is obſervable without. And to begin with the Eaſt Window, which is the Head of the Croſs, where the High Altar was: This is a beautiful Structure, conſiſting of four Pillars or Bars, with a great deal of curious Work betwixt the Pillars for the Support of them. On each ſide of the Window there are a great Number of Niches for Statues, and on the Head of it an old Man with a Globe in his Left Hand reſting on his Knee, and a young Man on his Right, both in a ſitting Poſture, with an open Crown over

over their Heads. It has been a current Tradition in this Place, that it has been a Repreſentation of the Trinity, and that there had been betwixt them the Shape of a Dove, as an Emblem of the Holy Ghoſt; but I ſee not any Foundation for this Conjecture, for there is not the leaſt Veſtige of a Dove here; it appears rather to be a Statue of King *David*, the Founder of this Church, and his Queen, or his Son Prince *Henry*. On the North-ſide of this Window and South, there are two great Windows, with three Bars almoſt as high as the former, but not ſo broad.

The Niches are curiouſly carved, both the Pedeſtals and Canopies; and on the Canopies are to be obſerved ſeveral Creatures cut curiouſly in Miniature; and under ſome of the Statues and Pillars, are the Figures of Men cut, ſome with their Legs croſs, and others leaning on one Knee, putting back one of their Hands to ſupport their Burdens, the Muſcles of their Neck ſtanding out as cruſhed with the Preſſure, and gaping with their Mouths.

On the South-eaſt of this Church are a great many Muſicians admirably cut, with much Pleaſantneſs and Gaiety in their Countenance, with their Inſtruments in their Hands, ſuch as the Bag-pipe, after the Highland Faſhion, Fiddles, Dulcimers, Organs, and the

the like, as alſo ſeveral Nuns with their Veils, and others richly dreſs'd.

On the South Entry there is a Window, very much admired for its Height and curious Workmanſhip; there are Niches on each Side of it and above, where have been the Statues of our Saviour and the Apoſtles. On the Head of the Door is a Lion rampant within a double Treſſure, and above this *John* the Baptiſt, looking up with one Eye, with this Inſcription, *Ecce filius dei*. Below *John* are the Statues of his Diſciples, which are now ſadly defaced.

On the Eaſt of this Window there is a Niche, having a Monk for the Supporter of the Statue, holding a Bend with each Hand about his Breaſt; on the Bend is written, *Paſſus e. q. ipe voluit*, i. e. *Paſſus eſt quia ipſe voluit*. The Monks are curiouſly cut, with their Beards and Cowls, ſome of them holding a String of Beads in their Hands.

On the Weſt-ſide of this Window, there is another Monk, with a Bend about his Breaſt, on which is written, *Cu. venit Jeſ. ſeq. ceſſabit umbra*, i. e. *Cum venit Jeſus, ſequitur, ceſſabit umbra*. To the Weſt of this there is a Criple, on the back of one that is blind; this is very much admired by the curious: On one Side of the blind's Beard is *Uncle*, and on the other *Dei*, by

way

of Petition, that Christ might have Mercy on them. There are a great many Niches at this Place, and several Creatures cut very nicely, as Boars, Greyhounds, Lions, Monkies, and others.

To the West of this Window there are eight still remaining entire, with the Face of a Man or Woman on each Side, some of them in a very antick Figure, after the *Gothick* Way. Above is the Statue of St. *Andrew* to be seen with a Piece of his Cross, and to the West of this the Statue of the Virgin *Mary*, holding the Babe in her Left Arm: This Niche excells all for its fine Sculpture and Drapery. Below, at one of the Windows, are the Arms of the *Hunters*, there being several of that Name Abbots here, namely, Two hunting Horns string'd, two Crosiers, as the Badge of his Office, crossing other in Saltier, or in the Form of a St. *Andrew*'s Cross, and a Rose at the Top betwixt the Crosiers; the Arms supported by two Mermaids, and below *R. H.* On the West of these are the Arms of the Abbacy, namely, a Mail and a Rose, a perfect Pun, it having no Relation to the antient Name *Mul-ross*. To the West of these are the *Scots* Arms, which have been set up there in King *James* IV.'s Time, for on the one side above is an *I*, and on the other side a ♕, and below

Anno Dom. 1505, two Years after his Marriage, which was concerted here betwixt the ſaid King and *Richard Fox* Biſhop of *Durham*, and eight before the fatal Battle of *Flouden*. Above the Arms are *I. H. S.* h. e. *Ieſus hominum ſalvator*.

There are about ſixty eight Niches ſtanding, the Statues were only demoliſhed about the Year 1649, by whoſe Authority I know not. There is a traditional Story here, that the Perſon that was employed to demoliſh them, while he was ſtriking at the Babe in the Virgin *Mary*'s Arm, a Piece of that Stone fell on his Arm, which he never had the Uſe of afterwards.

The Cloyſter has been on the North-ſide of the Church, a Part of its Wall is ſtill remaining, where may be obſerved their pleaſant Walks and Seats, and a great deal of fine Flowers nicely cut, as Lilies, Ferns, Grapes, Houſe Leeks, and the like, as alſo Eſcalops, and Fir-ſeed and others. There is a Font at the North Entry to the Church, and the Door curiouſly emboſſed, and the Foliage here and in ſeveral Places of the Church very curious.

There has been a Gallery through the whole Church, with Balliſters before, where one may walk ſafely. The ingenious Mr. *Slezer* gives us a good Draught of this Church

in

in his Theatre of *Scotland*. I have taken the Meaſure of what is ſtanding, though much of the Weſt Part is ſo entirely demoliſhed, that we cannot know how far it has reached that Way, and the principal Entry has been to the Weſt. Its juſt Length is 258 Feet, its Breadth 137 Feet and an half, its Circumference round about is 943; the Day-light of the South Window, or its Height 24, the Breadth with four Bars 16, the Day-light of the Eaſt Window its Height 34 Feet and a half, with four Bars, the Breadth of the Eaſt Window 15 and a half; the Height of the Steeple from its Foundation 75 Feet, the Spire being gone.

I am now to give an Account at what Time and by whom much of it has been laid in Ruins. It was ſeveral Times defaced by the *Engliſh*, lying near the Borders, particularly by *Edward* II. *anno* 1322. This was in his ſecond Attempt on *Scotland*, when, after he had come the Length of *Edinburgh*, he was forced to return, to his great Diſhonour, without having effectuated any thing, but only the ſpoiling and burning the Abbeys of *Melroſe* and *Dryburgh*, and killing many of the Monks (*h*); for the repairing of which, King *Robert* the *Bruce* makes a Grant to the Abbot and Religious

(*h*) Buchanan, lib. 8. p. 265.

of *Melroſe* of two thouſand Pounds *Sterling*, for building of new the Fabrick of their Church of St. *Mary*, to be paid out of all Wards, Relieves, Marriages, Eſcheats, Fines, Amerciaments, Exits and Perquiſites, belonging and falling to the Crown out of the Shire of *Roxburgh*: The Date is at *Scone* on the 26th of *March* anno 1326 (*i*). This was a great Sum in theſe Times, but we are to obſerve, that there were ſome forfaulted who had large Poſſeſſions about this Place, ſuch as Sir *John Sowles*, to whom belonged the Lands of *Nisbet*, the Baronies of *Langnewton*, *Maxton* and *Caverton*; as alſo Sir *Richard Moubray*, to whom belonged the Lands of *Ecford*. *John Major* in his ſixth Book acquaints us, that *Richard* II. King of *England*, burnt this Monaſtery, and at the ſame time *Edinburgh*, *Newbottle*, and *Dryburgh*. It was likewiſe demoliſhed, a great Part of it, after K. *James* the Fifth's Death, during the Regency of the Earl of *Arran*, when Sir *Ralph Ivers* and Sir *Bryan Laton*, under *Henry* VIII. of *England*, had taken Charter of the *Merſe* and *Teviotdale* to be holden of the King of *England*, and came to take Saſine and Poſſeſſion, which when *Archibald* the ſeventh Earl of *Angus* heard, he vowed that he

(*i*) Symſon's Hiſt. of Stuarts, p. 151.

he ſhould write the Inſtrument with ſharp Pens and red Ink upon their own Skins, becauſe they had defaced the Tombs of his Anceſtors at *Melroſe* (*k*); which he performed at *Ancrum* Muir, about five Miles South from *Melroſe*, or *Lilliards Edge*, as it is commonly called, from a Woman that fought with great Bravery there, to whoſe Memory there was a Monument erected in the Field of Battle, with this Inſcription, as the traditional Report goes:

Fair Maiden Lilliard *lies under this Stane,*
Little was her Stature, but great her Fame;
On the Engliſh *Lads ſhe laid many Thumps,*
And when her Legs were off, ſhe fought upon her Stumps.

I have ſeen the Monument, which is now all broken in Pieces; but the Place of Battle not being within the Pariſh of *Melroſe*, I forbear to give any further Account about it; a Battle, ſays Mr. *Crawford*, for the Valour of ſo few againſt ſo many, the Wiſdom in taking the Advantages, and a moſt noble Victory, worthy to be more famous than it is. After the Reformation, *anno* 1560, it was ſadly defaced, as *Leſly* acquaints us;

(*k*) Hume's Hiſt. Doug. p. 269. Crawf. Notes on Buchanan, p. 144.

us; *lib.* 10. *p.* 527. says he, *Monasteria Dumfermlingense, Melrossense, Kelsoum, miseris modis sectarii vastabant.* And it seems probable, that many of the Houses within the Convent have been ruined by Fire, from the Lead and burnt Timber that is to be found in several Places.

After the Reformation, *James Douglas* Commendator did take down a great Part of it, for the building a fine House for himself, which is still standing, and his Name and his Lady's on one of the Windows, *anno* 1590. As much of it has been demolished lately for building a Tolbooth, for the repairing their Mills and helping their Sluices; the People here have a superstitious Conceit, that the Baillies who give Orders for the pulling down of any Part of it do not long continue in their Office; and of this they give many Instances, as in the Commendator and others, though the same that make this Remark have no Scruple to take these Stones for their own Houses.

I am now to give an Account of some of the Abbots and Monks of this Place, that were distinguished for their Piety, Learning and Offices. I have not seen the Chartulary. The Monks here were *Cistertians*, so named from their chief House and first Monasteries, *Citeaux* or *Cistertium* in *Burgundy.*

gundy. They were brought here from *Rievalle*, an Abbay in *Yorkſhire*; *Richard* the firſt Abbot was inſtall'd in the Year 1136, being the ſame Year on which it was founded by King *David*. To him ſucceeded *Walterus* or *Waldevus*, Son to King *David*; for beſides Prince *Henry*, by moſt Authors mentioned as the only Child of King *David*, we have good Authority to believe that he had a ſecond Son, named *Waldevus*, whom the Chronicle of *Melroſe* calls Uncle to King *Malcome* IV. (*l*). This Perſon was elected Biſhop of *St. Andrews*, but declin'd that Honour, ſaying that he had waſhed his Feet, and could not contaminate them again with the Duſt of earthly Cares (*m*). He is ſaid by *Fordun* to have wrought many Miracles, and is now ranked among the Saints of the *Roman* Church. Many Offerings were made at the Tomb of the ſaid *Waldeve*, as appears by Sir *John Stuart* of *Bonkyll* his Charter granted to the ſaid Abbacy (*n*). *Joceline*, a Man of conſiderable Learning, was Abbot here, and afterwards Biſhop of *Glaſgow*; he was buried here, and a great Benefactor to the Abbey.

Lau-

(*l*) Abercromby's Martial Atchievements, p. 404. Vol. I.
(*m*) Spotiſwood's Hiſt. p. 36.
(*n*) Symſon's Hiſt. of Stuarts, p. 61.

Laurentius is ſaid to be a Perſon of great Meekneſs, and a learned Divine.

Another was *Radulph* anno 1194, a Perſon of great Learning, whom Pope *Innocent* III's Legate had ſuch a Regard for, that he took him along with him to *Ireland* and made him Biſhop of *Down* (*o*). This Legate ſtaid in *Melroſe* fifty Days, and was honourably entertained by the Convent, as Mr. *Hay* acquaints us in his *Scotia ſacra*. He came to make up a Difference betwixt the Monks of *Calchow* and the Monks of *Melroſe*; he took their Money and Gold, and left the Plea undetermined. I find in the Year 1268, that the Abbot and a great Part of the Convent were excommunicate in a Council at *Perth*, for breaking the Peace with the Men of *Wedale*, for killing a Clergyman there and leaving ſeveral wounded. I find this Convent have had a great many Debates with thoſe of *Wedale* about their Marches. *Wedale* is *Stow*, and the Places about called *Vallis doloris*. This belonged to the Biſhop of *St. Andrews*.

I find one *Patrick Abbe de Meuroſs*, as it is expreſt in the Ragman Roll, ſwearing Fealty to *Edward* I. *anno* 1296 (*p*).

Robert of *Kildalach*, formerly a Monk, and

(*o*) Spotiſ. Hiſt. lib. 2. p. 41.
(*p*) Prynne, p. 653.

and Abbot of *Dunfermline*, Chancellor of *Scotland*, was made Abbot of this Place. *John Fogo*, Abbot alſo of this Monaſtery, was Confeſſor to King *James* I. and much taken notice of for his Learning. *Boethius* and *Leſly* ſay he was a Profeſſor of Divinity, and *Spotiſwood*, that he diſputed with great Force againſt Friar *Harding* (*q*). And the ſame Hiſtorians acquaint us, that he was the principal Man that confuted *Paul Craw* the *Bohemian*. *Andrew Hunter*, Abbot of this Place, was Confeſſor to King *James* II. and Lord High Treaſurer, *anno* 1449. Mr. *Crawford*, in his Lives and Characters of the Officers of the Crown and of the State, thinks he was either of the Houſe of *Powmood* or *Hunterſtone*; but I think he was of the *Hunters* of *Hag-burn* in this Pariſh, a Family of a very long ſtanding, for beſides him, there were ſome others of that Name Abbots here.

After him were ſome of the Name of *Dury*, and *Fogo*'s. *Leſly* ſays, *lib.* 10. that *James Stuart*, eldeſt natural Son to King *James* V. was Abbot of *Kelſo* and *Melroſe*; he died in the Year 1559 †. After him Car-

D dinal

(*q*) Spotiſ. p 56.

† It may be a Doubt, whether this Abbot of *Melroſe*, or his other natural Son of the ſame Name, were eldeſt; ſince, by the Order in which Dr. *Mackenzie* has placed them, in his *Lives*

dinal *de Guiſe* was named Abbot by *Mary* of *Lorrain* Queen Dowager, but never got Poſſeſſion thereof. I find ſome of them have been employed in ſeveral honourable Embaſſies to the Pope and Kings of *England*, and Members at their General Councils.

The Monaſtery of *Melroſe* was a Mother Church or Nurſery to all the Order of *Ciſtertians* in *Scotland*, ſuch as *Glenluce* or *Vallis lucis* in *Galloway*; the Monks of that Monaſtery were brought from *Melroſe*, and kept a cloſe Correſpondence with the Abbots and Monks here, as appears by that famous Letter *William* Abbot of *Glenluce* writes to the Abbot of *Melroſe* about an Appearance in the Heavens (*r*); *Newbottle* in *Mid-lothian*, *Kinloſs* in *Murray*, *Cowpar* in *Angus*, *Balmerinoch* in *Fife*, and others. It would appear that the Abbot of *Melroſe* had a Vote in the Election of the Abbots of theſe Monaſteries; for *Ferrerius*, a Native of *Piedmont*, the Continuer of *Boethius*'s Hiſtory, and Author of the Regiſter of *Kinloſs*, in the Hiſtory of the Abbots of that Place acquaints us, that the Abbots of that Place *canonicè eligebantur per Monachorum ſuffragia, & patris Abbatis a Melroſs electio-*

Lives and Characters of the Scottiſh *Writers*, Vol. II. p. 595. it would ſeem he Earl of *Murray* was the eldeſt.

(*r*) Vid. Chron. de Mailroſs, p. 192.

lectionem, ſimul & confirmationem. Machline in *Kyle*, a Diſtrict in the Shire of *Air*, was a Cell of *Melroſe*, founded, as ſome ſay, by King *David* I. but it rather appears, that it was the *Stuarts* who founded *Machline*, and beſtowed it on *Melroſe*.

The Monks of this Abbacy wrote a Chronicle, called the Chronicle of *Melroſe*, of which we have ſeveral Manuſcript Copies, both in *Scotland* and *England*. It begins *anno* 735, and is continued by ſeveral Hands down to the Year 1270. The Biſhop of *Carliſle* hath placed this Chronicle in his *Engliſh* as well as in the *Scottiſh* Hiſtorical Library, the Subjects of both having had hand in the Compoſure of it: And ſince, in the firſt Part, it chiefly inſiſts upon the Affairs of that Kingdom, and is a Continuation of *Bede*'s Hiſtory, theſe Collections muſt be ſuppoſed to have been made when *Melroſe* was in the Hands of the *Engliſh*. The ſecond Part appears to have been written by the Abbot or Prior of *Dundrenan* in *Galloway*, a Nurſery under *Melroſe*, a great Favourite of *Walter* Great Steward of *Scotland*. The learned Dr. *Gale* publiſhed this Chronicle at the Theatre of *Oxford* in the Year 1684. It is obſerved by ſome, that this printed Chronicle is not ſo full and exact as to our *Scots* Affairs as the Manuſcript Co-

pies we have of it; and Dr. *Jamieſon* has obſerved, that if any of theſe Manuſcripts were to be publiſhed, it ſhould be with three different Sorts of Notes and Obſervations (*ſ*).

This famous Abbacy was endued with large Revenues and many Immunities, as appears by the Charters granted to the Abbot and Convent by our Kings. It was the favourite Abbacy of *David* I. the Founder of it, as Mr. *Innes* obſerves in a Manuſcript he had ſeen in the *Colbertine* Library, giving an Account of the ſeveral religious Houſes built by the ſaid *David*; it is added, *Sed Melroſſenſem præcipuè inter omnes eccleſias, & fideliter defenſabat, & dulciter diligebat, & ſuis opibus exornabat.* Mr. *Hay* ſays, 'tis recorded in the Book of Taxes of the Apoſtolick Chamber, that King *David* beſtowed on this Abbacy 1880 Florins. The original Charter of Foundation is confirmed by his Son Prince *Henry*, and bears that he gave to this Abbacy the whole Lands of *Melroſe*, *Eldun* of *Dernewie*, *Galtownſide*, *Galtownſide-haugh*, and *Galtownſide-wood*, and many Privileges in the Foreſts of *Selkirk* and *Traquair*, particularly betwixt *Galla* and *Leeder*. The Charter alſo bears, that theſe Lands had been perambulate by the

(*ſ*) See the Appendix to Dr. Nicolſon's Scots Hiſtorical Library, Num. 111.

the King himself and the Prince, with *Richard* the first Abbot. The Date of this Charter is the second Year after *Stephen* of *Boloign* King of *England* was taken Prisoner, which must be in the Year 1143. The Witnesses are *Hugo de Moreville*, *William de Somerville*, *Gervasius Riddel* and others.

And it is said that King *William*, sirnamed the Lyon, after his Return from *England*, *abbatiam magnificè dotavit*. *Alexander* II. though the Dominicans were his favourite Order, he gives to this Abbacy the Forest of *Etrick*. *Robert* the *Bruce* did enrich it with many Donations. The *Stuarts* both before their Accession to the Throne and afterwards, have been the greatest Benefactors to it, as appears from Mr. *Symson*'s Genealogical and Historical Account of the illustrious Name of *Stuart*.

There were likewise many Donations granted to it by our Nobles, Gentlemen and Bishops of *Glasgow*. I find from the Chronicle of *Melrose*, that *Richardus de Morevilla*, high Constable of *Scotland*, gives *Park* to this Abbey; *Dunbar* Earl of *March* gives a Grant also of many Lands in the *Merse* and *East-Lothian*; *Hugh Giffard* Lord *Yester* grants the Monklands of *Yester*; and *William* first Earl of *Douglas* grants likewise the Patronage of the Church

of

of *Cavers* to this Abbacy; *Riddel* of *Riddel*, *Haig* of *Bimmerſide*, and many others. I have had no Acceſs to ſee the Chartulary, thoſe Accounts I have glean'd from ſome of our Hiſtorians, which are well atteſted.

From the Rent of the whole great Church Benefices within the Kingdom, as they were given up at the general Aſſumption 1561:

Abbacy of Melroſe.

In Money, 1758 *l.*
Wheat, 14 Chalders, 9 Bolls.
Bear, 56 Chalders, 5 Bolls.
Meal, 78 Chalders, 13 Bolls, 1 Firlot.
Aittes, 44 Chalders, 10 Bolls.
Capons, 84.
Poultry, 620.
Butter, 105 Stone.
Salt paid out of Preſtonpans, 8 Chalders.
Peats, 340 Loads.
Carriages, 500.

The temporal Lands thereof; the Lands of *Melroſland*, *Kylleſmuir* and *Barmuir*; for they had a great many Lands in *Kyle* and *Carrict*, the *Monkland* in *Cliddeſdale*, and the *Monkland* in *Niddiſdale*, called *Dunſcoir*.

Kirks belonging thereto: The Kirk of *Cavers*, the Right of the Patronage of this was

was granted by *James Douglas* Commendator to the Family of *Cavers*; the Kirks of *Haſſendean*, of *Weſter-Ker*, *Dunſcoir*, *Vchiltree* and *Machline*.

This Account differs from what Mr. *Keith* gives us in his Collections. It is ſaid, out of this Rent, Aſſignation is made to eleven Monks and three Portioners, it is likely to theſe who had renounced Popery, 20 Merks to each, *item* Wheat 4 Bolls, Bear 1 Chalder, Meal 2 Chalders. The Dean of the Chapter, called *John Watſon*, comply'd with the Reformation. Mr. *Hay*, in his *Scotia ſacra* (*t*), gives us a further Account of the rich Allowances that were granted to this Abbey, I ſhall give it in his own Words: *In charta viſitationis* 1542 *invenio, monachos ibi fuiſſe* 100; *anno* 1520, 80; *anno* 1540, 70, & 60 *converſos, quibus dabantur modia frumenti annuatim* 60, *cerviſiæ dolia* 300, *ad miſſarum ſolemnia vini dolia* 18, *ad hoſpites ſuſcipiendos dolia vini* 20, *cerviſiæ* 40, *frumenti modia* 30, *infirmis nutriendis* 4000 *lib. Turon. tonſori lib.* 400. He adds, *Porro monaſterium omnium erat in Scotia pulcherrimum atque opulentiſſimum.*

After the Reformation, I find by the bounding Charter of *Newſtead*, one *Michael* Commendator

(*t*) Scotia ſacra, p. 542. in Bibl. ICt. Edinb.

mendator *anno* 1564. After this a Grant was made of this Abbey, with all the Lands and Tythes thereto belonging, by Queen *Mary* to *James* Earl of *Bothwel* and Duke of *Orkney*, who was forfeited for Treaſon. *James Douglas*, ſecond Son of *William Douglas* of *Lochleven*, afterwards Earl of *Morton*, was advanced to be Commendator of *Melroſe*, by whoſe Care and Induſtry all the original Evidences were preſerved, and are ſtill extant in the Cuſtody, as I am inform'd, of the Earl of *Morton*. After this a Grant was made of it to Sir *John Ramſay*, in conſideration of his good Services in reſcuing King *James* VI. from the Attempt of the Earl of *Gowry* and his Brother at *Perth*, who was created Viſcount of *Haddington*, and afterwards was made a Peer of *England* by the Title of Earl of *Hulderneſs*. In the Preamble of this Grant, and ratified by Parliament *anno* 1609, we have a full Account of *Gowry*'s Conſpiracy, and it appears by it, that *James Douglas* the former Commendator had a handſome Allowance during his Life, which 'tis probable he diſponed to Mr. *John Hamilton*; for I find by the Grant afterwards made to *Thomas* Earl of *Melroſe*, he purchaſes a Demiſſion from Mr. *John Hamilton* Commendator of *Melroſe*, for demitting the ſaid Abbey.

When

When this Abbacy was erected in a temporal Lordſhip, in favours of *Ramſay* Viſcount of *Haddington*, a great many Lands that belonged to the Abbacy are excepted and given to others, ſuch as the Tenantry of *Dumfidling*, *Weſter-Ker* or *Weſter-Kirk* to the Earl of *Morton*; to the Lord *Lowdon*, the Lands and Barony of *Kyleſmure* and *Barmure*, and the Pariſh-kirk of *Manchline*; to Sir *James Hay* of *Fingask* Comptroller, *Grange* and *Grangemure* in the Conſtabulary of *Haddington*; to the Lord *Ochiltree*, the Kirk of *Ochiltree*, and the Teinds of the Pariſh thereof.

It was afterwards acquired by Sir *Thomas Hamilton*, employ'd by King *James* VI. in ſeveral honourable Offices, or, as others, that he got a Gift of it, as he did likewiſe of the rich Nunnery of *Coldſtream* in favours of his third Son Sir *John Hamilton* of *Trabrown*, by the Influence of his Brother-in-law the Earl of *Somerſet*, the great but unfortunate Favourite of King *James* VI. and he was dignified with the Title of the Earl of *Melroſe* anno 1619, upon which he aſſum'd three Roſes into his Arms. This he exchanged afterwards for the Title of *Haddington*. 'Tis ſtoried that he was a little hard and ſevere on his Vaſſals and Feuers here, which gave Occaſion to that Epitaph

made by Mr. *Thomas Forreſter* Miniſter here:

Here lies one, who, while he ſtood,
Was matchleſs if he had been ——.
This Epitaph's a Syllable ſhort,
Which if you pleaſe you may add to't;
But what that Syllable doth import,
That noble Peer could never do't.

But whatever he was to his Vaſſals, it muſt be owned that all his Succeſſors were extremely kind to them, of which they ſtill retain a grateful Senſe. In the Grant that is made to the Earl of *Melroſe*, a great many Lands are likewiſe excepted and given to others, or their holding altered. To *Walter* Earl of *Buccleugh*, the Kirk of *Haſſendean*, *Haſſendean-Tower*, alias *Monks-Tower*; many of the Monks, beſides theſe who attended on the Kirks of *Cavers* and *Haſſendean*, reſiding there; *Ringwood* with its Steedings, *Cauldcleugh*, *Northhouſe*, *Braidhaugh*, *Cralleshope*, *Cortburgh*, *Sudanrig*, *Weſtcortrig*, *Prieſthaugh*, *Eskdale-muir* and others. To the Earl of *Wigton*, *Kingildores*. And granted to Sir *Gideon Murray* of *Elibank*, that the Barony of *Longſhaw* ſhall hold of the King; as alſo to *William Douglas* Fiar of *Cavers*, that

that the Five Merk Lands, called the Kirk-lands of *Cavers*, ſhall hold of the King; and the Kirk of *Etrick* to Sir *Walter Scot* of *Thirleſtain*. To whom the Monk-lands of *Nithiſdale* called *Dunſcoir* was given, I can have no Information.

It has lately been purchaſed by the Dutcheſs of *Buccleugh*, whoſe Predeceſſors were heritable Baillies, before the Reformation, of this Burgh of Regality, for which they had ſeveral Lands in the Pariſh, as the Superiority of *Appletreeleaves*, the Lands in *Darnick*, called ſince the *Lairds lands*, and, while deſigned of *Murdiſton* and *Ranelburn*, were very kind to the Abbacy (*u*).

There were ſeveral Lands depending on this Abbacy, lately ſold off to Mr. *Baillie* of *Jerviſwood*, ſuch as the Barony of *Longſhaw* and *Blainſlies* in this Pariſh, that belonged to the Regality, and *Redpath* and *Park* in the Pariſh of *Earleſton*. The ſeveral Places that hold on it at this Time, paying a certain Feu-duty, are, the whole Pariſh of *Melroſe*, the Barony of *Longſhaw* and *Blainſlies* excepted; the whole Pariſh of *Leſſuden*, and,

Belonging to the Duke of *Roxburgh*, the Lands of *Salſat*, *Tron*, *Cocklaw*, *Capelrodick*, *Evenſhaw*, *Broſneſs*, *Surchope*,

(*u*) Crawford's Peerage, p. 52.

Raſhaw, Gateſhaw, Hownamgrange, Southcote, Cliſtone-cote, Mill of *Hownamgrange*.

The Marquis of *Tweeddale* for *Monkland* of *Yeſter*.

To Lord *Belhaven*, the Lands of *Eaſter*, *Weſter* and *Middle Hart-ſides*, *Milnhaugh* of *Newgrange*.

To Lord *David Hay*, *Penſhiels*, *Prieſthall*, *Kingſide*.

To the Laird of *Roughlie*, *Frierdykes*, *Winterſhiels*.

To the Laird of *Drumelzier*, *Littlehope*, *Mieklehope*, *Langhope*, *Hope Cartone*, *Whitehope*, *Chapelhope*.

To Sir *Walter Riddel*, *Cringils*.

To Sir *William Scot* of *Thirleſtain*, *Ramſeycleugh*, *Scabbiecleugh*, *Kirkhope*, *Craigie*, *Craigiehill*.

To *Archibald Douglas* of *Cavers*, a Five Merk Land called the Kirk-land of *Cavers*, viz. the Three Merk Land of *Crook*, a Merk Land in *Whitrig* called the *Huſſie*, and a Merk Land in *Cavers* called the *Boag*.

To Mr. *Ker* of *Littledean*, *Plewland*.

To Mr. *Ker*, *Morrieſton*.

To the Laird of *Whitſlaid*, *Ettrickhouſe*, *Shorthope*.

To Sir *William Meinzies* of *Gladſtanes*, *Wolfclyde*.

To Sir *William Purves*, *Pittlehaugh*.

To

To *Alexander Pringle* of *Whitebank*, *Friarscroft*.

To *Charles Balfour* of *Broadmeadows*, *Glenkerrie*, *Midgehope*.

To *George Douglas*, *Friershaw*.

To *George Mason*, *Clerklees*.

To *Walter Williamson* of *Cardrona*, *Espinghope*, *Brockhope*, *Landhope*.

To *John Haliburton*, *Muirhouselaw*.

To *Robert Scot* of *Horsliehill*, *Monkscroft* in *Hassendean*.

To the Laird of *Hairhope*, *Hairhope*.

To Mr. *Francis Scot*, *Phaup*.

To Mr. *Scot* of *Burnhead*, a Merk Land in *Hassendean*, half Merk Land in *Clarilaw*.

To Mr. *Ogilvie* of *Hartwoodmires*, *Hornhole*, *Calford*.

To Mr. *John Watson*, *Overmains*.

To Mr. *John Scot*, a Merk Land in *Hassendean*.

To the Laird of *Stonefauld*, *Harelaw*, East End of *Hassendean*.

To *George Rutherford* of *Fairnington*, *Monksclose* and Meadow.

To *Thomas Inglis*, a Tenement of Land and half Croft in *Selkirk*.

To *George Fairbairn*, a Tenement and half Croft in *Selkirk*.

To *William Turnbul*, the Clerk Croft in *Hassendean*.

To

To *Alexander Hume*, an Acre in *Haſſendean*.

James Corſar, for his Lands in *Heſſington*.

I am now to give an Account of the Miniſters that have been here ſince the Reformation *anno* 1560. I find by the Acts of our firſt Aſſemblies, that Mr. *Pont* was appointed to preach here; how long he continued, and whether he was ſettled in the Place, I cannot determine. The next was Mr. *John Knox*, a Nephew of Mr. *Knox* the Reformer. He continued here for a conſiderable Time, and died only *anno* 1623, as appears by his Graveſtone.

To him ſucceeded Mr. *Thomas Forreſter*, one that was taken notice of for his facetious Poetry and ſatyrick Verſes. He was depoſed by the Aſſembly at *Glaſgow* anno 1638; and, as *Honorius Reggius* acquaints us, *claſſe Mulroſſiana accuſante, probatum fuit*, that he had publickly declared, that any ſervile Work might be done on the Lord's Day, and as an Example to the People, he brought home his Corn out of the Fields to his Barn-yard on that Day; as alſo that he had ſaid, that the Publick and ordinary Preaching of the Word was no neceſſary Part of Divine Worſhip, that the reading of the Liturgy was to be preferr'd to it; that Paſtors and private Chriſtians ſhould uſe no other

other Prayers but what were preſcrib'd in the Liturgy. They charge him likewiſe with Arminianiſm and Popery, and that he ſaid publickly, that the Reformers had done more Harm to the Chriſtian Churches, than the Popes at *Rome* had done for ten Ages. I am ſurprized ed that no Notice is taken of his Litany, which made a great Noiſe in theſe Times: Biſhop *Guthry* in his Memoirs only mentions it:

From Dickſon, Henderſon *and* Cant,
Th' Apoſtles of the Covenant,
Good Lord deliver us.

I have been at great Pains to find out this Litany in the Libraries of the curious, but in vain. There was an old Gentlewoman here, who remembred ſome Parts of it, ſuch as,

From the Jeſuit *Knave in grain,*
And from the She Prieſt crack'd in Brain,
From her and a' ſuch bad Laſſes,
And a' bald ignorant Aſſes,
Such as John Roſs, *that donnard Gooſe,*
And Dan Duncanſon *that duncy Ghoſt,*
Good Lord deliver us.

For the underſtanding of this Part of the Litany we are to obſerve, that there was one *Abernethy*, who from a Jeſuite Prieſt turn'd

a zealous Presbyterian, and was ſettled Miniſter at *Hownam* in *Teviotdale*; he ſaid the Liturgy of *Scotland* was ſent to *Rome* to ſome Cardinals, to be reviſed by them, and that Signior *Con* had ſhewed it to himſelf there: He is the Jeſuite. And as to the *She Prieſt*, this was one Mrs. *Mitchelſon*, who was look'd upon as a Perſon inſpir'd of God, and her Words were recited as Oracles, not a few taking them from her Mouth in Characters. Moſt of her Speeches were about the Covenant (*x*).

From Lay Lads in Pulpit prattling,
Twice a Day rumbling and rattling,
And concludes his Litany,
From all the knock-down Race of Knoxes,
Good Lord deliver us.

'Tis ſaid that he made that Epitaph on the Earl of *Strafford* which is in *Cleveland*'s Poems, and that Mr. *Cleveland* acknowledged that he was the Author of it. The witty Turns in it are much of a piece with other Performances of his which I have heard of. The Epitaph is,

Here

(*x*) Burnet's Mem. of the Dukes of Hamilton, p. 83.

Here lies wiſe and valiant Duſt,
Huddled up 'twixt fit and juſt;
Strafford, *who was hurried hence,*
'Twixt Reaſon and Convenience.
He ſpent his Time here in a Miſt,
A Papiſt, yet a Calviniſt:
His Prince's neareſt Joy and Grief
He had, yet wanted all Relief.
The Prop and Ruin of the State,
The People's violent Love and Hate;
One in Extremes lov'd and abhorr'd.
Riddles lie here, and in a Word,
Here lies Blood, and let it lie
Speechleſs ſtill, and never cry.

To Mr. *Forreſter* ſucceeded Mr. *Alexander Scot*, who was admitted Miniſter here *anno* 1640, and died the ſame Year. To him ſucceeded Mr. *David Fletcher*. Before the Year 1638 he had been ſecond Miniſter at *St. Cuthbert's* or the *Weſt-kirk* at *Edinburgh*; he was then zealous for Epiſcopacy, as appears by the Information that he and others ſent by one *Learmonth* to the Archbiſhop of *St. Andrews*, then at *London* (*y*). When he came to *Melroſe* he was as zealous for Presbytery, and after the Reſtoration of K. *Charles* II. *anno* 1662 he was made Biſhop of *Argyle* by the Influence

(*y*) Burnet's Mem. p. 41.

of his Brother Sir *John Fletcher* the King's Advocate. It was in his Time that the Statues were demoliſhed: He died *anno* 1665, as appears by his Tomb. To him ſucceeded Mr. *Alexander Biſſet*, who had been tranſported from *Tyningham* to this Place, and died *anno* 1689. To him ſucceeded Mr. *Robert Wilſon*, who was ſettled here *anno* 1690, and died *anno* 1713. The preſent Miniſter is Mr. *Adam Milne*, who was admitted *anno* 1711.

There were alſo here a vaſt many fine Buildings within the Convent, for the Reſidence and Service of the Abbot and Monks, with Gardens and other Conveniencies; all this incloſed within an high Wall, about a Mile in Circuit. Beſides the High Church, there has been a large fine Chapel, where the Manſe now is, and another Houſe adjoining to it, where the Foundations of the Pillars are ſtill to be ſeen. On the North-ſide of this Houſe there has been a curious Oratory or private Chapel, the Foundations of which have been diſcovered this Year, and a large Ciſtern of one Stone, with a Leaden Pipe conveying the Water to it.

To the North of this there have been ſeveral Bridges over the Dam, which runs from *Tweed* this Way, the Foundations of which are yet to be ſeen, and two of them entire,

entire, many of their Houſes being built on the North-ſide of the Dam.

At a Place called the Bakehouſe-Yard near the Mill, was an Oven of excellent Architecture, with ſeveral Stories of Ovens above others, as high as the Steeple in the Church, and built with as fine hewen Stone; this was taken down about 36 Years ago. In ditching this Bakehouſe-yard about ſix Years ago, there was found a large Kettle for brewing, ſold at 5 *l. Sterling.* From the Bakehouſe there was a common Sewer or Drain, to ſeveral Places of the Convent, ſo high and large, that two or three may walk eaſily a-breaſt under it. In ditching any Place within the Convent, particularly near the Church, the Foundations of Houſes have been diſcovered. Not only the Monks had their Houſes here, but ſeveral Gentlemen that retir'd from the World built for themſelves convenient Lodgings; the Ruins of one of theſe is only to be ſeen, called *Chiſholm's Tower.*

The Town without the Convent, named now *Melroſe*, was anciently called *Little Fordell.* It has the Privilege of a Burgh of Regality, a weekly Market on *Saturday*, not much frequented; four Fairs in the Year, one on *Martinmas*, another on *Lammas*, one on the laſt *Wedneſday* of *May*, another

on the *Thurſday* before *Eaſter*. This, in the Time of Popery, was their great Fair, called *Skeir Thurſday*, or *Schier*, pure, holy. There is a Corporation of the Weavers here within the Regality, eſtabliſhed by a Charter, which they call the *Seal of Cauſe*, granted by *John* Earl of *Haddington* anno 1668, containing many Privileges, Freedoms and Immunities. They chooſe their Deacon and Boxmaſter annually at *Michaelmas*. This Corporation have a fine Seat in the Church, with their Arms and Motto, *viz. Non vi, ſed virtute covamur*.

Several *Roman* Medals or Coins have been found about this Place, ſome of Gold, ſome of Silver, and of Braſs, as of *Veſpaſian*, *Trajan*, *Hadrian*, *Antoninus Pius*, *M. Aurelius* and *Conſtantine*; as alſo ſeveral of the old *Engliſh* Coins in Silver, particularly of the *Edwards*, and on the Reverſe the Names of ſeveral Cities in *England* and *Ireland*, as *Civitas London. Lincoln. Dublin. Waterford*, &c. and likewiſe ſeveral of our own Coins, as of *Robert Bruce* and his Son *David*, &c.

There have been ſeveral conſecrated Wells about this Place; whether they have been frequented as medicinal, I know not, ſuch as St. *Helen*'s, St. *Robert*'s, *Duddingſton*, or rather St. *Dunſtan*'s. *Dunſtan*'s and *El-*

dun

dun Wells are ſtill made uſe of by the Country People as a ſovereign Remedy againſt Cholicks.

A little to the South of *Melroſe* there is a ſmall Village, called *Dingleton*, or *Daniels-town*; there is a Place here called the *Locked Well*, and ſeveral Springs about it, from whence Water was brought into the Monaſtery by Leaden Pipes. A little to the South-weſt of *Dingleton* there was a famous Croſs, yet called the *Croſshillhead*, but anciently the *Haleſing* of St. *Wada*; for thoſe that came from the South had firſt a View of the Church here and of the Tomb of St. *Waldeve*, and bowed and ſaid their *Ave*.

To the South of *Danieltown* there are three remarkable Hills, called *Eldon* or *Hildon Hills*, i. e. high Hills, which afford a fine Proſpect to all the Country about, *Merſe*, *Northumberland*, *Teviotdale* and *Forreſt*. The Root of theſe Hills will be in Compaſs ſix or ſeven Miles, the Height of two of them to the North about a Mile and an half. On the Top of the North-eaſt Hill are plain Veſtiges of a *Roman* Camp, being well fortified with two Foſſes and Dikes of Earth, more than a Mile and a half in Circuit, with a large Plain near the Top of the Hill, called the *Floors*. On the Head of the Hill may be ſeen the *Prætorium*, or the Gene-

ral's

ral's Quarter, ſurrounded with many Huts. There are Ports from this Camp to the Eaſt, the Weſt, to the North, from a Place called the *Haxrecrag* a plain Way to *Melroſe*, called the *Stile Dyke*. The principal Entry to the Camp has been from the South towards *Bothendean*, where the Ground ſlopeth more eaſily, from a Place near the South Hill called the *Caſtleſteed*.

It has all the Properties of a well choſen Camp, according to the Rules *Vegetius* has given for a Camp. It has a large Proſpect of all the Countries lying upon each Side of it. It hath many Springs of good Water near it; the Sides of the Hill have been covered with Wood, and the Camp is of that Extent, that neither Man, Beaſts nor Baggage, could be pinched for want of Room.

On the North-ſide of the middle Hill, near the Foot of it, there is a Place called *Bourjo*, where I think the *Druides* have offered their Sacrifices, and performed their ſuperſtitious Rites in this Grove to *Jupiter*, it being all planted with Oak. The Bower has been ſurrounded with a deep Trench, and a plain Way made to it from the Eaſt and to the Weſt. From this Camp there is a large Ditch or Rampier for two Miles to the Weſt, reaching to another Camp on the Top of *Caldſhiel* Hill. This Camp has been ſtrongly

ly fortified with a double Trench, and the Circumvallations of it continued for a good Way.

This Camp, with that in *Darnwick* Ground called *Caſtleſteed*, make almoſt a Triangle, with the large Camp on *Eldonhill*, and I think theſe two have been *caſtra exploratorum*, or the Out-guards.

To the South-eaſt of *Eldonhills* are two Villages, *Newton* and *Hildon*. There are ſeveral Feuers in the *Newton* of an old ſtanding, ſuch as the *Milns*, *Veres* and *Stenhouſes*; the Writes of the latter I have ſeen of ancient Date. There has been a military Way here, which may be traced a great Way to the South and to the North.

To the South-weſt of theſe Hills there has been a beautiful military Way, raiſed in ſome Places high above the Ground, and of a conſiderable Breadth, in ſome Places military Stations upon it, as at *Kippilaw*. It runs through *Halidun* Park, and in ſome Places carried through Lakes and Mariſhes. It has had a Communication with the Camp at *Caldſhiels*, and likewiſe with another Camp on the other Side of *Tweed* called the *Rink*.

About a Mile to the Weſt of *Melroſe*, on the South of *Tweed*, is *Darnwick* or *Dernewie*. In the High-road to this Place there has

has been another remarkable Croſs, called the *High Croſs*. In this Place there are two old Towers, belonging to the *Fiſhers* and *Hyttons*, Names of an old ſtanding, and a Place there called the *Skinnerhill*, but properly the *Skirmiſhhill*, from the Battle that was fought there *July* 18th *anno* 1526, the Occaſion of which was, that King *James* V. frequently complaining to his Friends, particularly to the Earl of *Lennox*, of the Reſtraint he was under while he was in the Earl of *Angus* his Hands, *Lennox* adviſed him to employ the Laird of *Buccleugh* to relieve him, for he was a moſt powerful Man upon the Borders, and had an inveterate Hatred againſt the Earl of *Angus*. *Buccleugh* being advertiſed of this privately, encourages the Borderers to commit great Diſorders, on purpoſe to bring the King in Perſon there to reſtify them.

The Deſign took, and the King, to do Juſtice, accompanied with the Earls of *Angus* and *Lennox*, Lords *Hume*, *Fleeming* and *Erskine*, with *Ceſsford*, *Farnehirſt* and others, come to *Jedburgh*.

It was concerted that *Buccleugh*, who dwelt within a little of *Jedburgh*, ſhould invite the King to his Houſe, and retain him there till more were come to his Aſſiſtance; but that Plot fail'd, and the King was brought back

back to *Melrose*, as *Buchanan* expresses it. However, *Buccleugh* resolved to prosecute what he intended. He assembled about 1000 Horse of his Friends and Dependents, and as the King was on his Way to pass the Bridge on *Tweed* about half a Mile from the Field of Battle, they perceived a Body of armed Men coming down *Halidon* Hill, which being come within Distance of discerning, were known to be commanded by the Laird of *Buccleugh*. The Earl of *Angus* immediately dispatches an Herald, to know what their Intentions were, and commanding them to withdraw out of the Way. The Laird of *Buccleugh*'s Answer was, that he came to do the King Service, to invite him to his House, or, as others say, that he knew the King's Mind as well as he, and would not go away till he saw him, nor obey any but his Prince. Upon this the Earl of *Angus* presently alighted from his Horse, and gave Orders that these that were with him should do so and fight on Foot. The first Onset was given by *Buccleugh* and his Men with mighty Fury and a great Shout, and the Battle for a while was very fierce, as being in the Presence of the King, who was a Beholder, and was to be the Reward of the Victor. At last *Buccleugh* being wounded, his whole Company turned their Backs, there being

fourſcore of them ſlain; and a great many were kill'd upon the Earl of *Angus*'s Side, particularly *Andrew Ker* of *Ceſsford*. Hereupon began deadly Feuds betwixt the *Kers* and *Scots*, and continued divers Years after, and ſeveral Murders and Slaughters followed upon it, amongſt which was the Slaughter of Sir *Walter Scot* himſelf in *Edinburgh*.

There is extant an Indenture betwixt the *Kers* and *Scots*, made at *Ancrum* 15th *March* 1529, which, for the Curioſity of it, I have thought fit here to inſert.

" THIR Indentures, made at *Ancrum* " the 16th of *March* 1529 Years, con- " tains, proports, and bears leil and ſuithfaſt " Witneſſing, That it is appointed, agreed " and finally accorded betwixt honourable " Men, that is to ſay, *Walter Ker* of *Ceſs-* " *ford*, *Andrew Ker* of *Fairniehirſt*, " *Mark Ker* of *Dolphinſton*, *George Ker* " Tutor of *Ceſsford*, and *Andrew Ker* of " *Primeſideloch*, for themſelves, Kin, " Friends, Mentennants, Aſſiſters, Allies, " Adherents and Partakers, on that one " Part; and *Walter Scot* of *Branxholm*, " Knight, *Robert Scot* of *Allanhaugh*, *Ro-* " *bert Scot* Tutor of *Howpaiſly*, *John* " *Scot* of *Roberton*, and *Walter Scot* of " *Stirkſhaws*, for themſelves, their Kin,

" Friends,

" Friends, Mentennants, Servants, Aſſiſters
" and Adherents, on the other Part, in man-
" ner, Form and Effect as after follows. For
" ſtaunching of all Diſcord and Variance be-
" twixt them, and for furthbearing of the
" King's Authority, and puniſhing Treſpaſ-
" ſes, and for amending all Slaughters, He-
" ritages and Steedings, and all other Pleas
" concerning thereto, either of theſe Parties
" to others, and for Unité Friendſhip and
" Concord to be had in Time coming 'twixt
" them, of our Sovereign Lord's ſpecial Com-
" mand: That is to ſay, Either of the ſaid
" Parties, be the Tenor hereof, remits and
" forgives to others the Rancour, Hatred
" and Malice of their Hearts; and the ſaid
" *Walter Scot* of *Branxholm* ſhall gang,
" or cauſe gang, at the Will of the Party,
" to the four Head-pilgrimages of *Scotland*,
" and ſhall ſay a Maſs for the Souls of um-
" quhile *Andrew Ker* of *Ceſsford*, and
" them that were ſlain in his Company in
" the Field of *Melroſe*, and upon his Ex-
" pence ſhall cauſe a Chaplain ſay a Maſs
" daily, when he is diſpoſed, in what Place
" the ſaid *Walter Ker* and his Friends plea-
" ſes, for the Weil of the ſaid Souls, for the
" Space of five Years next to come: *Mark*
" *Ker* of *Dolphinſton*, *Andrew Ker* of
" *Graden*, ſhall gang at the Will of the Par-

" ty to the four Head Pilgrimages of *Scot-*
" *land*, and ſhall gar ſay a Maſs for the Souls
" of umquhile *James Scot* of *Eskirk*, and
" other *Scots* their Friends ſlain in the Field
" of *Melroſe*, and upon their Expence ſhall
" gar a Chaplain ſay a Maſs daily, when he
" is diſpoſed, for the Heal of their Souls,
" where the ſaid *Walter Scot* and his Friends
" pleaſes, for the Space of three Years next
" to come: And the ſaid *Walter Scot* of
" *Branxholm* ſhall marry his Son and Heir
" upon one of the ſaid *Walter Ker* his Si-
" ſters; he paying therefore a competent
" Portion to the ſaid *Walter Ker* and his
" Heir, at the Sight of the Friends of baith
" Parties. And alſo, baith the ſaids Parties
" bind and oblige them, be the Faith and
" Truth of their Bodies, that they abide at
" the Decreet and Deliverance of the ſix
" Men choſen Arbiters, anent all other Mat-
" ters, Quarrels, Actions and Debates, whilk
" either of them likes to propone againſt o-
" thers betwixt the ſaids Parties: And alſo
" the ſix Arbiters are bound and obliged to
" decreet and deliver and give forth their
" Deliverance thereuntil, within Year and
" Day after the Date hereof. And attour,
" either of the ſaids Parties bind and obliges
" them, be the Faith and Truth of their Bo-
" dies, ilk ane to others, that they ſhall be

" leill

" leill and true to others, and neither of
" them will another's Skaith, but they ſhall
" lett it at their Power, and give to others
" their beſt Counſel, and it be asked; and
" ſhall take leill and affald Part ilk ane with
" others, with their Kin, Friends, Servants,
" Allies and Partakers, in all and ſundry
" their Actions, Quarrels and Debates a-
" gainſt all that live and die (may the Al-
" legiance to our Sovereign Lord the King
" allenarly be excepted). And for the o-
" bliging and keeping all thir Premiſſes a-
" bove written, baith the ſaids Parties are
" bound and obliged, ilk ane to others, be
" the Faith and Truth of their Bodies, but
" Fraud or Guile, under the Pain of Perju-
" ry, Men ſwearing, Defalcation, and break-
" ing of the Bond of deadly. And in Wit-
" neſs of the whilk, ilk ane to the Procura-
" tory of this Indenture remain with the
" ſaid *Walter Scot* and his Friends, the ſaid
" *Walter Ker* of *Ceſsford* has affixed his
" proper Seal, with his Subſcription manu-
" al, and with the Subſcription of the ſaid
" *Andrew Ker* of *Fairniehirſt*, *Mark Ker*
" of *Dolphinſton*, *George Ker* Tutor of
" *Ceſsford*, and *Andrew Ker* of *Primeſi-*
" *deloch*, before theſe Witneſſes, Mr. *An-*
" *drew Durie* Abbot of *Melroſe*, and

" *George*

" *George Douglas* of *Boonjedward*, *John*
" *Riddel* of that Ilk, and *William Stewart*.

Sic ſubſcribitur,

Walter Ker of *Ceſsford*.
Andrew Ker of *Fairniehirſt*.
Mark Ker.
George Ker.
Andrew Ker of *Primeſideloch*.

N. B. The four Pilgrimages are, *Scoon*, *Dundee*, *Paiſlaw* and *Melroſe*.

I do not think that ever this Indenture took place, for both *Leſly* and *Crawford*, in his Notes on *Buchanan*'s Hiſtory, acquaint us, that the *Kers* ſlew the Laird of *Buccleugh* in *Edinburgh* anno 1552, three and twenty Years after this Indenture.

A little to the South of *Darnick* is a Place called the *Tile-houſe*, where they made their Tile for the Service of the Monaſtery, and a great deal of it is ſometimes found there, finely glazed.

About half a Mile above *Darnick* to the Weſt, on the South-ſide of *Tweed*, ſtands *Bridgend*, called ſo from the Bridge there, three Pillars of which are ſtill ſtanding. It has been a Timber Bridge; in the middle Pillar there has been a Chain for a Draw-bridge, with a little Houſe for the Conveni-

ency

ency of thoſe that kept the Bridge and received the Cuſtom.

On this ſame Pillar are the Arms of the *Pringles* of *Galaſhiels*; it is likely that Family has contributed largely for the building of it.

I am ſurprized that Mr. *Gordon* in his Journey over *Scotland*, could receive ſuch a lame Account from any, namely, That he was informed, that long ago a Country Man and his Family liv'd in this Tower, and got his Livelihood by laying out Planks from Pillar to Pillar, and conveying Paſſengers over the River; whereas 'tis plain and obvious to any, that it has been a very conſiderable Draw-bridge, and very neceſſary at this Place.

There has been a plain Way from this Bridge through the Muirs to *Sautrayhill*, called yet the *Girthgate*; for *Sautra* was an Hoſpital founded by *Malcolm* IV. for the Relief of Pilgrims, for poor and ſickly People, and had the Privilege of a Sanctuary, as *Girth* ſignifieth. The Way is ſo good and eaſy, that it may put one in Mind of the Roads that led to the Cities of Refuge.

On the South-Weſt from *Bridgend*, on the North-ſide of the Highway to *Selkirk*, there are the Veſtiges of a conſiderable Camp to be ſeen, called yet the *Caſtleſteed*. It is ſurrounded

rounded with a deep Ditch, in ſome Places with two Foſſes, more than a Mile and an half in Compaſs, called the *Kae-ſide*, or rather the *Kid-ſide*. Some Part of the Ditch is about ten Foot high. The Place where the Camp has been, there are two very deep Foſſes to the North, but to the South the Rampires are broke down, and the Ditches filled up by labouring and tilling the Ground. From the Camp there is a plain military Way leading to *Tweed* at the *Nether-Barnfoord*, and a deep Ditch on each Side, in ſome Places about twenty Foot broad. From this Camp there is a large Proſpect to the North. They were ſupplied with Water from *Tweed*, and two Wells near the Camp, *Whitehill* Well and St. *John*'s Well. About a Mile to the South of this Camp near *Huntlierwood*, there has been another large Camp, called by the People the *Roundabout*, but the greateſt Part of it is levelled by Tillage.

This Part of the Pariſh that lies on the South of *Tweed* is fruitful in Corn and Paſturage, but the Inhabitants very much ſtraitned for Fewel, having no Coals, but what they get from *England* or the *Lothians*, and being at a great Diſtance from any Moſs.

In the Deſcription of this Pariſh on the North-ſide of *Tweed*, I begin with *Drygrange* on the Eaſt, ſtanding near the Con-

fluence

fluence of *Tweed* and *Leeder*. In King *James* V's Time, *David Lithgow* of *Drygrange* gets a Charter from the Abbot and Convent of *Melroſe* of the Lands of *Drygrange*, for his ſpecial Service in reſiſting, to the Hazard of his Life, Depredators and Robbers of the Dominion of *Melroſe*. That Family was forfeited, and one of that Name and Family purchaſed theſe Lands from *John* Earl of *Haddington*, as they were lately acquired by *Robert Paterſon*, and are now the Heritage of Mr. *Colin Maclaurin*, Profeſſor of Mathematicks in the Univerſity of *Edinburgh*. *Fordun* gives us an Account of two *Granges* in this Pariſh (*z*), one called *Heldwii*, or perhaps *Hardwii*, from whence the Place has taken its Name *Drygrange*; and the other at *Gattonſide*: And he acquaints us, that in a great Famine, about four thouſand Poor came to the Convent of *Melroſe* for Relief, whom *Waldeve* the Abbot pitying, he went with his Cellarer or Butler *Tyna* to his *Grange* at *Heldwii*, and then to *Gattonſide*, and having put in the Staff which he carried in his Hand among the Corn, it was multiplied by the Sign of the Croſs, both for the Supply of the Convent, and all theſe numerous Poor. I obſerve this Office of the Cellarer has been ve-

(*z*) Thomas Hearne's Edition, p. 572.

ry considerable, having many Lands assigned them, particularly at *Darnick*, called yet *Cellary Lands*.

There is a Ferry-boat on *Tweed* here, and good Fishing for Salmon.

To the West of *Drygrange* near *Tweed*, on the Head of a Hill, there has been a Camp: It bears no Resemblance of a *Roman* Camp. If I may be allow'd my Conjecture, I think it has been made by the Governor and Earl of *Angus* before the Battle at *Ancrum* Muir or *Lilliards-Edge*; for, as *Buchanan* acquaints us (*a*), the Governor and Earl of *Angus* came with their Men to *Melrose* upon *Tweed*, where they intended to stay and wait for the rest that were coming. The *English* were come to *Jedburgh* before, and being advertised of the small Number of the *Scottish* Army, they marched towards *Melrose*, having 5000 Men in their Army, in great Confidence to defeat so small a Number as was with the Governor. The *Scots* had Notice of their coming, and thereupon retired to the next Hills, where they might with Safety espy what Course the Enemy would take, and it is likely made some Encampment there. From this Hill they had a clear View of the March of the Enemy from *Jedburgh*. The Trench is

(*a*) Buchan. lib. 15. p. 515.

is pretty deep, but of no great Compaſs.

To the Weſt of *Drygrange*, on the North-ſide of *Tweed*, is *Gattonſide*, pleaſantly ſituated on the Side of an Hill, from whence it has its Name. The Inhabitants here, and theſe on the South-ſide of *Tweed*, are generally Feuers to the Right Honourable Lady *Iſabella Scot*, Daughter to the late Dutcheſs of *Buccleugh*, and *Charles* Lord *Cornwallis*. There has been a fine Chapel in this Place, all built of hewn Stone, near the Vicar's Houſe. This Perſon is called ſo, becauſe ſome of his Predeceſſors few'd the ſmall Vicarage Tithes of this Town from the Commendator; though others ſay they had a Gift of them before the Reformation from Abbot *Durie*, one of that Family having married his natural Daughter. Many of the Stones of the Chapel are to be ſeen in his Houſe, aud ſome of them curiouſly carved. The People here, in digging and ditching their Yards, particularly near where the Chapel has ſtood, find ſeveral Vaults, and a great many hewn Stones, by which it appears, that in the Time of Popery there have been ſeveral good Buildings here.

The Inhabitants of this Pariſh, particularly on *Tweed*, uſe to reap great Benefit from their Linen Manufacture, they being very expert in ſpinning, weaving and whitening both

fine and coarſe Linen; *Melroſeland* Linen being famous through the Kingdom. Some of them carry on a profitable Trade by their Cabbage Plants in the Seaſon, which are very good here, by taking them to *Dumfries*, *Carnwath*, and other Places: And others receive great Benefit from their Fruit-yards; one in *Gattonſide* tells me, that ſome Years he has received three hundred Merks for the Fruit of his Garden. On the South Part of this Town was the *Grange Fordun* ſpeaks of, which at this Time is called the *Grange-gate*.

To the Weſt of *Gattonſide* there is a Place called the *Tind* or *Tythe-yard*. Above this there was a fine Orchard belonging to the Convent; it ſtill retains the Name, conſiſting of above five Acres of Ground. There is a Meadow here called the *Cellary Meadow*, belonging to the Cellariſt of the Abbey, as on the Eaſt-ſide of the Town the Abbot had a Meadow, called the *Abbot's Meadow*.

On the Head of the Hill, on the Side of which *Gattonſide* is founded, there has been a large Camp. It has a Rampier or Wall about it of Stone, about half a Mile in Compaſs. There is a plain Entry to it from the Weſt and to the Eaſt. Near to the Weſt Entry, called the *Cloſſes*, there are a great many fine Springs. Near to this Camp there is

a

a Place called the *Roundabouts*, of a circular Figure; whether it has been a kind of *Roman* Temple, I leave it to others to determine.

About an half Mile from this Camp to the Eaſt, on the Head of the Hill, oppoſite to *Newſtead*, there has been a large Camp, with a deep Ditch, a great Part of the South-ſide being levelled by Tillage. It ſeems to have been about three Quarters of a Mile in Circumference; the People call it the *Cheſter-know* or *knoll*, and it is to be obſerved, that uſually there were *Roman* Camps where the Places carry the Name of *Cheſters*.

To the North of theſe Camps, at ſome Diſtance from them, there appears to have been a Village, with two Rows of Houſes; the People do not remember the Name of it, but call it the *Weather-coat-ridges*.

To the Weſt from *Gattonſide* about half a Mile, there is a good Ferry-boat on *Tweed*, called the *Weſthouſes Boathouſe*. This Boat having a good Pool, and being the ordinary Paſſage from the South to *Edinburgh*, is very much frequented. They have likewiſe here a good Fiſhing for Salmon. Above the Boat is *Weſthouſes*, the old Poſſeſſion of the *Ormiſtons* for many Years: They have had a good Houſe here, with many Vaults and Gun-holes on every Side, after

the

the old Form. I ſee their Names on the principal Gate, *anno* 1581. They had the Cuſtom of the Bridge while it was ſtanding, and a conſiderable Intereſt about this Place, and in old *Melroſe*. It is ſaid that *George Ormiſton* late Hangman in *Edinburgh* was a Cadet of this Family, if not the Repreſentative of it; a Memorandum to old Families not to be puff'd up with Pride on account of their Antiquity, for they know not what mean Offices they or theirs may be obliged to ſtoop to. This Place was in the Poſſeſſion of the *Pringles* of *Blindlee* for ſome Time, and now belongs to Mr. *Scot* of *Galaſhiels*.

There is a little Water that runs into *Tweed* at this Place, with a Stone Bridge of one Arch over it; the People call it *Ell-wand* Water, but it rather ſhould be *Allan*, having its Source from *Allanſhaws* about four Miles to the North. The Trouts in this Water are obſerved to be very good, being fed from the Moſſes. About half a Mile to the North of this little Water, near *Eaſter-Longlee*, there is a Place called the *Nameleſs Dean*, where, on the Side of the Brae, are to be found divers curious formed Stones, ſome of them in Shape reſembling Guns, Butter-caps, Cradles, Buttons, and the like. There is an high Bank above the Water here, where they are found,

and

and after great Rains are washed into the Water. The Matter of these Stones seem to be fine Marle; whether they are so formed in the Bowels of the Earth, or petrified by the Springs in the Side of the Brae and the Heat of the Sun, I leave to others to determine.

About a Mile to the West of this, on the East-side of *Galla*, is *Wester-Longlee*, called also *Galla Bridge*, from a Bridge that had been here over *Galla*. It is now the Possession of Mr. *Tait* of *Pirn*. It belonged anciently to the *Cairncrosses*, and here there is a pleasant Haugh on *Tweed*, called the *Cellary-haugh*. To the North of this, on the same Side of *Galla*, is *Longhaugh*, a small Village pleasantly situated, and on an Eminence *Apple-tree-leaves*. The *Darlings* have been long Feuers here, and, next to the *Pringles*, is a Name of the oldest standing on this Water. Near to this Place is an high Hill of a large Compass, all green, which affords good Pasture for Sheep, called *Buckholmhill*, and not far from it the House of *Buckholm*, of considerable Strength, which is now ruinous. It and *Williamlaw*, lying contiguous to it, belonged for several Ages to the *Pringles* descended of *Galashiels*, and was lately purchased by Mr. *Rutherford* of *Fairnielee*,. There has been a beautiful Wood here on the Water of *Galla*, but much

of

of it now deſtroyed, and the Ground turned to arable Land. It would appear from its Name, and a pleaſant Place on the Water of *Galla*, called the Iſle of *Roe*, that there have been many Deer in this Place.

Williamlaw is a very high Hill, and on the Top of it a Cairn of Stones called *Bellſcairn*, from which there is a fine Proſpect to all the Country about.

Near to *Williamlaw*, on the Water of *Galla*, is *Whitelaw* and *Hagburn*, the Poſſeſſion anciently of the *Hunters*, afterwards of the *Wallaces* and *Macdougals*. It was lately acquired by Mr. *Andrew Fiſher* Wright in *Edinburgh*, and is now in Poſſeſſion of his Brother-german the Laird of *Houſebyres*. I find from the Chronicle of *Melroſe*, that the Marches betwixt the Convent and theſe of *Weddal* or *Stow* were early fixed, namely *Croſſelete*, and a little Water called *Faſſeburn*; the Inhabitants here have entirely forgot the Name of it. To the Eaſt of this is *Allanſhaws*, where the Water of *Allan* has its Riſe, from a Place called *Allanhead*. This Water divides the Pariſh on the North ſide of *Tweed*; it runs by *Threepwood*, where there have been many Feuers for a long Time of the Name of *Moffat*; and then by *Colmſliehill*, the old Poſſeſſion of the *Hogs*, it directs its Courſe

to

to *Colmſly*. There has been a Chapel here, the Ruins of which are yet to be ſeen: It has been dedicate to *Columba* Abbot of *Hii*, from whence the Place ſeems to take its Name, as it is likewiſe called *Cellmuir*, from the Chapel in the Muir. On the Weſt-ſide of this Rivulet ſtands *Colmſly* Tower, the ancient Seat of the *Cairncroſſes*, where their Arms are to be ſeen on the Head of the Door, A Stag's Head eras'd, the reſt of their Bearing being defaced: Theſe Arms have been ſet up by *Walter Cairncroſs*. This Family had a great Intereſt in this Pariſh and in other Places: They lay claim to *Robert Cairncroſs* Biſhop of *Roſs*, Treaſurer and Abbot of *Holyroodhouſe* in King *James* V's Time; though Mr. *Crawford* ſays, in his Lives and Characters of the Officers of the Crown and of the State, that without Doubt he deſcended of the Family of *Balmaſhanen*. However, if the Character that *Buchanan* gives of him, both in his Hiſtory and Epigrams, be juſt, and we have no Reaſon to doubt of it, it is no great matter what Family he belonged to. *Hugh Cairncroſs* of *Hilſlop*, near to the Place, is the undoubted Repreſenter of this ancient Family, ſince the Death of Mr. *Alexander Cairncroſs* Archbiſhop of *Glaſgow*, and after the Revolution Biſhop of *Rapho* in *Ireland*. Theſe

Lands of *Colmſly* came afterwards to the *Pringles*, *Hunters*, *Scots*, *Lawſons* and *Lithgows* ſucceſſively. At *Hilſlop* there is a Road called the *Abbey-gate*, Pilgrims being continually travelling to and from *Melroſe*, becauſe it was one of the four Head Pilgrimages of *Scotland*. On the Eaſt-ſide of this Rivulet, oppoſite to *Colmſly Tower*, ſtands *Langſhaw*, a well repaired old Houſe, with Gardens and Planting. This Barony of *Langſhaw* has changed many Maſters, ſuch as the *Hope-Pringles* of *Smalholm*, the *Kers*, *Murrays*, *Scots*, *Nicolſons*. Mr. *Baillie* of *Jerviſwood* purchaſed it ſome Years ago, and is now in the Poſſeſſion of my Lady *Murray* and my Lady *Binning* his Daughters. The many Changes of Poſſeſſors of Lands in this Pariſh may put us in Mind of what is ſaid in *Horace*:

Nunc ager Umbreni, ſub nomine nuper Oſelli
Dictus, erit nulli proprius: ſed cedet in uſum
Nunc mihi, nunc alii.———

About half a Mile to the Eaſt of this, on the Road that leads to *Edinburgh*, is *Moſshouſes*, where there have been ſeveral good Houſes, but now ruinous, belonging to ſome an-

ancient Feuers there of the Name of *Notman:* And about half a Mile from this to the North, on the ſame Road, is a famous Cairn, called the *Blue Cairn*, from the Colour of the Stones, where there is a large Space of Ground encloſed and fortified by Nature, which will contain a vaſt Number of People. About a Mile to the North-eaſt of this are three Villages called *Blainſlies*, remarkable for their fine Oats, which are carried to the moſt Parts of the Kingdom, and ſome of them to the South of *London:* They are regarded not ſo much for their Whiteneſs, as for their Earlineſs and Increaſe; they are commonly ſold three or four Shillings *per* Boll above the ordinary Rate of the Market. There are ſeveral of the Feuers here of a long Standing, particularly the *Thynnes*, who perhaps have deſcended from the *Botevilles* in *England*, one of whom was called *Tom at the Inne*, and his Poſterity had the Sirname contracted into *Thynne*. By the bounding Charter of the Nether Town of *Blainſlie*, it appears they have had a fine Chapel, called *Cheildhelles* Chapel; it has been built of hewn Stone, near a Mile from the Towns, on the March betwixt *Lauder* and them, where there is a large Dyke, called *Monkſdyke*; as alſo that there have been two Croſſes on the Road to *Edinburgh*,

near *Leeder*, the one called *Lillies-croſs*, and the other the *High-croſs*.

Near *Leeder*, oppoſite to *Bridgehaugh*, there has been a conſiderable Camp, but a great Part of it is defaced by Tillage.

Near to *Blainſlies*, on the Weſt of the Water of *Leeder*, is a Place pleaſantly ſituated, with a fine Bank of Wood, from whence it has the Name of *Broadwoodſhiel*, the ancient Poſſeſſion of the *Hunters*, and ſince of the *Kers* and *Fairbairns*.

The Pariſh of *Melroſe* is here intercepted by that of *Lauder*, till we come to *Clackmae* and *Sorrowleſsfield*, the one oppoſite to *Carlſide* and the other to *Coldenknows*. Theſe Lands belonged anciently to the *Humes* of *Coldenknows*, and were ſewed out by *John* Earl of *Haddington*, about an hundred Years ago, to *Alexander Fiſher*, a Cadet of the *Fiſhers* of *Darnick Tower*.

About a Mile to the North-weſt of *Clackmae*, there has been a large Camp, with three deep Trenches; the Space between the Trenches is ſo large, that it is turned to arable Ground: It is about half a Mile in Compaſs; the Name they give it now is *Ridgewalls*, there having been ſome Houſes built within the inmoſt Rampier, which are now ruinous. To the Weſt of this Camp there are three large Springs, very near other.

ther. About a Quarter of a Mile to the East of this, there is another called the *Chesterlie*, about half a Mile in Compass, with one single deep Ditch; from this there appears a plain military Way to the South, but especially to the North, running through *Chapelmuir* and the *Blainslie* Ground till *Cheildhelles Chapel*. About a Mile to the South of *Ridgewalls* there is another small Camp on an Eminence near *Earlston*, called *Brownhill*; this Camp lies in a direct Line with that of *Chesterlie* and that of *Drygrange*.

This Part of the Parish on the North-side of *Tweed* is fruitful in Corn and Pasturage, particularly Pasturage, and well stored with numerous Flocks, and the Country is generally well provided with Peats and Turffs, which they have abundantly in the Muirs and Mosses, such as *Threepwood* and *Blainslie* Mosses, Places much frequented by the Mos Troopers under *Cromwel*'s Usurpation.

The Patroness of this Church is the Right Honourable Lady *Isabella Scot*.

The Stipend 1400 Merks, and 100 Merks for Communion Elements. As to the Glebe, it may justly be reckoned among the worst in *Britain*, being at an unusual Distance from the Manse, and scarce worth the labouring. The old Pasquinade with respect to the *Corinthian* Brass taken by *Urban*,

of

of the Family of the *Barberini*, from the Doors of the Pantheon, may be applied to a great many things. *Quod non fecerunt Barbari, fecerunt Barberini.*

The Number of catechiſable Perſons will be about one thouſand and eight hundred, though by the Decreet of Locality above an hundred Years ago, I find there has been in this Pariſh two thouſand Communicants or thereby.

There have been baptized for the Space of ſeven Years, two hundred and ſix Males, and two hundred and ten Females.

FINIS.

MVSEVM BRITAN NICVM

MUSEUM
BRITANNICUM